



JOHN ELIAS BALDACCIO  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
78 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0078

REBECCA M. WYKE  
COMMISSIONER

DOMNA GIATAS  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

Dear Local Official:

We are pleased to announce the **Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Local and Regional Services**, a competitive grant program to support communities in developing joint ventures to deliver services. Through this initiative, collaborative efforts will be sought that demonstrate significant savings in the cost of delivering local and regional government services through efficiencies that ensure sustainable high quality services. Governor Baldacci included the funds for these competitive grants as part of the FY 2005 budget as a means of exploring the joint delivery of services as one way to reduce local government spending and counteract escalating property taxes.

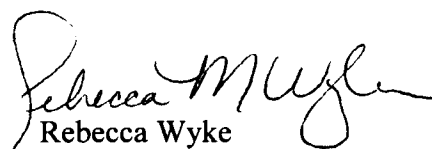
This pilot program is intended to encourage and support cooperation among intergovernmental organizations and municipalities, in part as models from which other Maine communities may learn and follow by example.

We are pleased to partner with the Maine Development Foundation, which will serve as grant administrator. We are also honored to have three municipal officials with successful track records in streamlining government--Mayor Dan Tremble of Bangor, Assistant City Manager Phil Nadeau of Lewiston, and Town Councilor Jeff Porter of Cumberland--joining Jerome Gerard, State Tax Assessor, and us as the review panel overseeing the award of these grants.

We encourage your community to partner with a neighboring municipality to develop a proposal to provide the joint delivery of services and apply for a grant to assist in the implementation.

Sincerely,

  
Martha Freeman  
Director, State Planning Office

  
Rebecca Wyke  
Commissioner, Department of  
Administrative & Financial Services